Australia's Fertility Transition: A study of 19th-century Tasmania

Tuesday 31 March
5:30-6:30pm

Launched by
Prof Frank Bongiorno
ANU School of History

Authored by
Dr Helen Moyle
ANU School of Demography

Location
Auditorium Foyer
Australian Centre on China in the World
Fellows Lane, ANU

A reception will follow the launch
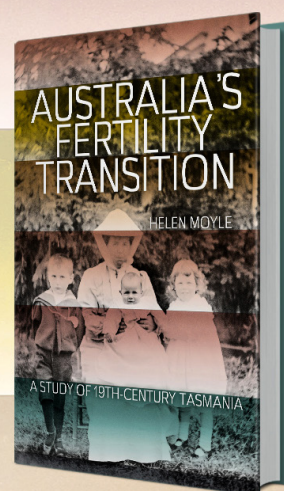
Please register to attend
E: admin.demography.cass@anu.edu.au

This book launch is open to the public

Hosted by

School of Demography
Research School of Social Sciences

ANU College of
Arts & Social Sciences

NEW
ANU PRESS
TITLE

AUSTRALIA'S FERTILITY TRANSITION

HELEN MOYLE

A STUDY OF 19TH-CENTURY TASMANIA

Please join us as Professor Frank Bongiorno officially launches Dr Helen Moyle's new book *Australia's Fertility Transition: A study of 19th-century Tasmania*.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Australia, like other English-speaking countries and countries in Western Europe, experienced a remarkable fertility transition. In Australia, for women born in the late 1840s, the most common number of children was 8, while 20 years later, it was 3.

This book investigates the fall of fertility in Tasmania during this period, using both quantitative and qualitative data. For the statistical analysis, the author reconstructed family birth histories using Tasmanian registration data and many other sources. The qualitative data include witness statements from the 1903 NSW Royal Commission into the Fall in the Birth Rate.

The book concludes that the fertility transition took place during a period of economic and social transformation, including major social changes in the role and status of women. Women were the driving force behind the Australian fertility decline.

Helen Moyle completed her Ph.D in the School of Demography at the ANU. She was awarded the CASS Ph.D Publishing Prize in 2019.

The book is available to download for free or hard copies can be purchased from: https://press.anu.edu.au/publications/australias-fertility-transition